

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR. Governor

GARY R. HERBERT Lieutenant Governor

July 13, 2006

Larry Walker 97 East Mount Peale Moab, Utah 84532

Subject: Deficient Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations, Larry

Walker, Tusher Redwood Project, M0190061, Task #1452, Grand County,

Utah

Dear Mr. Walker:

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining has reviewed the referenced Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations and has the following comments.

Please remove the variance requests from the notice. The notice requests variances from surface preparation and seeding requirements, but these variances should not be necessary. Rule R647-3-109.13.11 says revegetation shall be considered accomplished when the revegetation has achieved 70 percent of the premining vegetative ground cover. If there is little or no vegetation on the site prior to mining, as it appears from the photographs you submitted, little or no vegetation is required following mining. Nevertheless, an attempt needs to be made to prepare the surface and apply seed at the proper time of year (late fall).

The notice needs to contain an operations map at a scale of 1"=200' or other scale as determined necessary by the Division. This map needs to show the locations of previously disturbed areas, roads, and operations features, such as trenches. The operation area and roads built for the operation must be outlined and labeled "disturbed area." It is particularly important to have a map showing previously disturbed areas and existing roads since reclamation standards will be different for these areas compared to undisturbed areas. The Division suggests that you prepare a carefully drawn scaled sketch of the area to be disturbed.

In cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management, the Division has determined the reclamation surety amount to be \$1000. This is less than what would normally be required for a one-acre site because the area is previously disturbed and because of the nature of the operation. The operation will consist of trenches approximately 20 X 30 X 5 foot in extent which will be recontoured before moving to the next location. Only one trench should be open at a time.

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The surety can be submitted in one of several forms, including cash, a certificate of deposit, a letter of credit, or a corporate surety. Please contact Beth Ericksen at 801-538-5318 or bethericksen@utah.gov for information about submitting the surety and reclamation contract.

Other questions about this letter can be directed to Paul Baker at 801-538-5261. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Susan M. White

Mining Program Coordinator Minerals Regulatory Program

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SMW:PBB:jb

cc: Frank Bain, Moab BLM

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